

Message Text

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63

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 EB-07 L-03 COME-00 /026 W

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R 312159Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0779

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

UNCLAS TEGUCIGALPA 3287

GUATEMALA FOR ROCAP

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BDIS, HO

SUBJ: DEL E. WEBB CASE

REF: STATE 178259

1. DONALD STEVENSON, GENERAL COUNSEL OF DEL E. WEBB CORPORATION CALLED SHULER AFTERNOON JULY 30. STEVENSON HAD FULL DISCUSSION WITH HIS LOCAL ATTORNEY GUILLERMO LOPEZ RODEZNO. ON ADVICE RODEZNO, WEBB CORPORATION TO MAKE SUBMISSION OF AN OFFER OF COMPROMISE ON ITS CLAIM AGAINST GOH. RODEZNO HAS SPOKEN TO OFFICIALS OF THE NEW GOVERNMENT AND STATES THAT GOVERNMENT IS WILLING TO DISCUSS OUT-OF-COURT SETTLEMENT. THE NEXT STEP IS FOR WEBB TO PROVIDE A LETTER TO RODEZNO OUTLINING A PROPOSAL WHICH HE WILL PRESENT TO THE APPROPRIATE MINISTRY.

2. STEVENSON STATED HE WAS WELL IMPRESSED WITH RODEZNO'S ACQUIRED BACKGROUND ON THE CASE UNDERSTANDING BOTH THE WEBB POSITION AND THE GOH POSITION. STEVENSON CONSIDERS HIS VISIT QUITE PRODUCTIVE.

3. EMBASSY OPINION HAS BEEN THAT RESOLUTION OF CLAIM WOULD PROBABLY REQUIRE LEGAL ACTION THROUGH THE HONDURAN COURTS IN ORDER TO PROVIDE BASIS FOR DECISION OF GOH TO MAKE ADDITIONAL PAYMENTS TO WEBB. THIS BELIEF BASED UPON DISCUSSIONS WITH MEMBERS OF PREVIOUS UNCLASSIFIED

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GOVERNMENT WHO CONTENDED THAT NO LEGAL BASIS EXISTED

FOR "ADJUSTMENT" OF PAYMENTS CLAIMED BY WEBB. WHEN
ECOMOFF RAISED THIS POINT OF VIEW WITH STEVENSON HE
REPLIED THAT RODEZNO CONSIDERED LEGAL PROCESS WOULD BE
SLOW AND LESS CERTAIN THAT TACK NOW BEING FOLLOWED.
STEVENSON ADDED THAT PREVIOUS WEBB APPROACH TO GOH
FOR ADMINISTRATIVE REMEDY HAD BEEN MERELY REJECTED OUT-OF-HAND
AND THAT ADMINISTRATIVE SOLUTION THROUGH COMPROMISE
IS LEGALLY POSSIBLE ACCORDING TO RODEZNO.

4. STEVENSON STATED HE WAS MUCH IMPRESSED WITH ASSISTANCE
OBTAINED FROM LAZAR (ARA/LA/CEN) IN FURTHERING WEBB'S CASE.
SOWASH

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Message Attributes

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